ECLIPSE COMICS®

10 Anniversary 1978 1985

R.O.B.O.T. BATTALION 2050

№ 1

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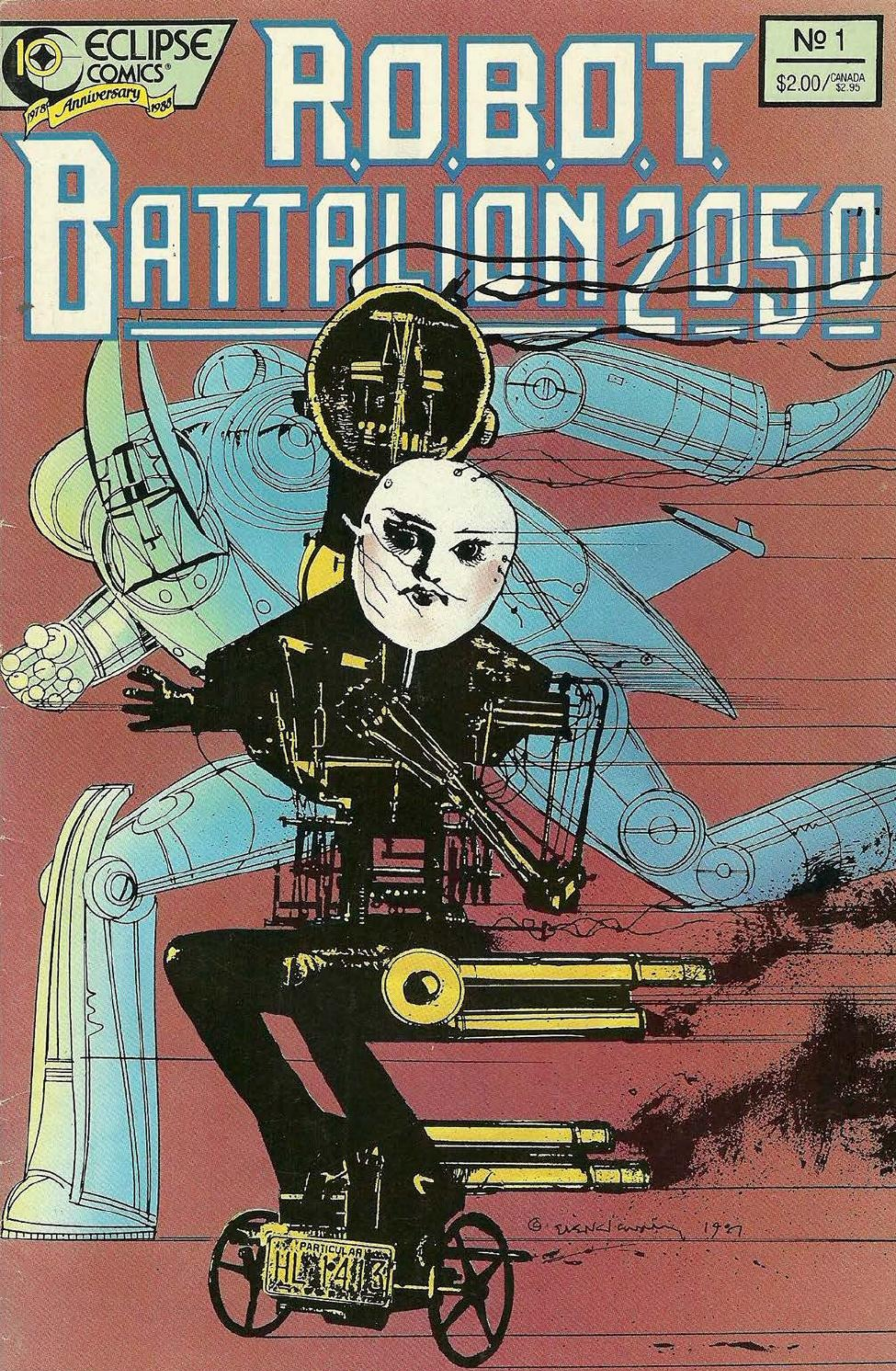

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The PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

4W indicates a 4Winds production.

AIRBOY no. 37 *A*
Airboy and Skywolf face death on the gallows, while the Iron Ace and Hirota

FUSION no. 8
Expecting a pleasure resort planet, the Tsunami crew instead finds a puritanical population!

KAMUI nos. 20 & 21
Have Ulysses and found his long lost father—only to lose him to crucifixion?

XENON nos. 7 & 8
to destroy Xenon, even if it means unleashing the Demon Three.

ZOT! no. 17
Life goes smoothly for our heroes until they're plunged into the turbulent mind of the mad cyborg, Dekko!

SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 1
New Series! 4W
Timothy Truman—and Emanuel Santana—return with the second phase of the best-selling **Scout** saga! This first issue is painted in full color by Truman, and takes place fifteen years after the events in Scout #24.

AREA 88 nos. 20 & 21
Kanzaki joins forces with the mafia to have Shin assassinated.

MAI THE PSYCHIC GIRL nos. 20 & 21
The battle of the century begins in the skies over Tokyo as Turm and Mai face off—psychic against psychic!

STRIKE! VERSUS SGT. STRIKE SPECIAL no. 1 *4W*
Find out where America's Secret Weapon has been all these years when he meets the new owner of the power-harness. This special leads directly into **Total Eclipse**.

R.O.B.O.T. BATTALION 2050
When all nuclear material on earth is used up, the arms race continues... with robots? Cover by Bill Sienkiewicz.

REVENGE OF PROWLER no. 2 *4W*
This special issue contains **The Second 4Winds Flexidisc**, with the Prowler WWII booster song by Michael Price and the 1980s Prowler theme song by Timothy Truman.

AIRFIGHTERS CLASSICS no. 3 *A*
Learn the secrets of Birdie in this facsimile reprint of **Airfighters Comics** Vol. 1, #4.

HAND OF FATE no. 2
Artemus Fate encounters murder victims who are either drained of blood or skinned alive!

POWER COMICS no. 1
Eclipse International and Acme Press bring you an exciting super hero series originally published in 1975 in Nigeria. Art by Dave Gibbons and Brian Bolland!

XYR *New Title!*
The world's first alternate ending comic! Help Xyr choose which path to follow to find the missing August Shiller!

SKYWOLF no. 1 *New Series! A*
Continuing his story from his back-up in **Airboy**, Skywolf and the Bald Eagle go on a treasure hunt in Viet Nam.

VALKYRIE: PRISONER OF THE PAST
The sell-out mini-series is now available in a signed & limited hardback collection.

WE HAVE A WINNER: The winner of the **LEN WEIN EARTHQUAKE ARTIFACT** is **W. C. ("LUCKY") KRAMER** of Omaha, Nebraska! This fortunate person wins a two-pound chunk of wall, which was broken off during the "Pasadena Earthquake," on October 1st, 1987. The piece of wall was autographed by Len and comes complete with a certificate of authenticity. WOW!

FREE COMICS FOR EVERYONE!

ECLIPSE WATCHERS: Our most recent free comics promotion (the WPA Post Office Mural Survey) netted us so many replies that we're doing it again. This time you'll get a free comic book for each Eclipse Watcher Store Survey you turn in, and your store will receive a specially matted art print by Timothy Truman signifying their co-operation in the Eclipse Watchers program.

Here are the rules:

Buy a pre-stamped postcard (no letter entries will be accepted), grab a pen, and go to your local comic book shop. You will have to ask the clerk or manager for some of this information, so try to do it during a quiet time, when there aren't a lot of customers around.

On the postcard, write down the following information:

The name and address of this comic book shop is _____.

The owner's name is _____.

The shop is__square feet in size.

The owner buys comics from (name(s) of distributor(s)).

The comics in this shop are displayed (on spinners) (on racks) (in piles all over the place) (other system: please describe).

The comics are racked (alphabetically by title) (by publisher, then alphabetically by title) (by shipping date) (in random order) (other system: please describe).

This store (does) (does not) offer a "comic saver" subscription service.

This store (did) (did not) display Eclipse posters on the walls or in windows in 1987. (Posters sent free to stores in 1987 included *Xenon, Mai, Area 88, Sisterhood of Steel, California Girls, Detectives Inc.*,

The owner tells me that the best selling Eclipse title in this store is (name of title).

This store sells about (number) copies of this title every issue.

This store (does) (does not) give out the *Eclipse Extra!* to customers.

This store (does) (does not) carry every Eclipse title published.

If answer to previous question was (does not) special order any Eclipse title for me from the distributor.

That's all there is to it. Just fill in the answers and send your postcard to ECLIPSE WATCHERS STORE SURVEY, P.O. BOX 1099, FORESTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95436.

If you have complete runs of certain titles, tell us, and we'll make sure your free comic is something you don't already have.

Why are we running this survey? Well, in the last few months we have been getting more letters than usual from fans who buy our back issues by mail order and complain that "This issue never made it to my store" or, worse, "This title isn't available here."

We have a pretty good idea of the most often "unavailable" Eclipse titles (they are *Fusion, Zot!, Prowler, The Dreamery, Strike!, Tales of the Beanworld*, and *California Girls*) but we need to find out how widespread the problem is before we can correct it. If your store doesn't carry some or all the titles i just mentioned, try asking the owner why. Write down the answer if there's still room on the postcard.

And, yes, all you ambitious Eclipse Watchers: You CAN survey as many stores as you want, and you'll earn a free comic book for EACH postcard you send in. And every store you survey will get a free Tim Truman art print, too.

catherine yronwode

R.O.B.O.T. BATTALION 2050™ no. 1. March 1988. Published by Eclipse Comics, P.O. Box 1099, Forestville, CA 95436. One-shot. Fred Burke, Editor. Catherine Yronwode, Editor-in-Chief. Dean Mullaney, Publisher. R.O.B.O.T. Battalion 2050 TM Beppe Sabatini. Story ©1988 Beppe Sabatini; art ©1988 Gary Martin and Martin King. Cover art ©1988 Bill Sienkiewicz. Cover colors by Sam Parsons. All other material ©1988 Eclipse Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. The stories, characters and events in this magazine are fictional. Film by SM Graphics. For licensing information contact Dean Mullaney.

GIANTS WALK THE EARTH.

YOU FEEL IT FIRST, THE MEASURED CADENCE OF SMALL GROUND SHOCKS, THE WALKING BEAM OF AN OIL WELL LIFTING AND DROPPING--

--LIFTING AND DROPPING, GROWING IN INTENSITY...

THROOM

YOU HEAR IT NEXT, THE SHRIEK AND SQUEAL OF METAL ON METAL--

--THE AIRPLANE WHINE OF ONE THOUSAND INTERNAL MOTORS...

THROOM

THEN YOU SMELL IT, CHOKING DUST AND THE BITTER STINK OF BURNING MACHINE OIL...

...AND LAST YOU SEE IT, A MACHINE SO IMMENSE IT DEFIES THE ABILITY OF THE EYE TO PERCEIVE ITS FORM.

ONE OF THE MOST INVINCIBLE PIECES OF ARMORED WEAPONRY EVER CONSTRUCTED.

68,000 TONS OF STEEL THAT WALKS AND MOVES IN MIMICRY OF THE FORM OF MAN AND GOD.

CHAPTER ONE:
HEAVY METAL

ROBOT BATTALION 2050

BEPPE SABATINI -- WRITER ; MARTIN KING -- PENCILLER ; GARY MARTIN -- INKER ;
JOHN CLARK -- LETTERER ; CAT⊛YRONWODE/FRED BURKE -- EDITORS

DUST! RACKET! TERRIBLE PICTURE! THE PILOT MUST BE TESTING THAT DAMN *ROBOT* AGAIN!

SOLID STATE

IT WAS QUIETER LIVING NEXT TO THE *AIRPORT!*

I HEAR THE RUSSIANS ARE TERRIFIED.

RADIUM DYNAMIX — THE WAY OF THE FUTURE

YEAH. THEY'RE TERRIFIED HE'LL GO OVER THERE AND PLAY *HOPSCOTCH!*

98

HEY! WHAT'S THE HOLD-UP, THERE?

HEY, BUDDY, I GOT A LOAD OF FREIGHT TO DELIVER! YOU MIND MOVING YOUR *ROBOT?*

97

WHAT CAN HE DESTROY WITH THOSE MISSLES OF HIS?

ANYTHING! HE'S *INVINCIBLE!* WHY, LAST YEAR HE BLEW OFF HIS *FOOT!*

YOO-HOO! MR. MECHANICAL MAN! WOULD YOU LOOK UP THERE FOR MY LITTLE BOY?

HE RAN OFF TO PLAY ON TOP OF YOUR *HEAD!*

THE ROBOT IS *KIND!* IT RETRIEVED FOR LITTLE FUJI A KITE THAT HAD BEEN LOST ON A ROOFTOP!

VERY TRUE! OF COURSE, IT ALSO *STEPPED* ON LITTLE FUJI, BUT NO ONE IS PERFECT, YES?

LEAST PERFECT OF ALL IS HE TO WHOM WE NOW TURN.

THE STRANGE STORY OF THE ROBOTS BEGAN THREE YEARS EARLIER...

THE YEAR WAS 2050 A.D.

WHITE HOUSE NO RUSSKIES ALLOWED

CONFIDENTIAL FILE A-548-1885-X

SERVING AN UNPRECEDENTED 19TH TERM IN OFFICE IS **RONALD REAGAN**--

RO EAGAN

--NOW ONE-HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE YEARS OLD.

FOR OVER SEVENTY YEARS NOW, MR. PRESIDENT HAS BEEN THE MOST **POPULAR** LEADER ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH--HE CAN DO NO **WRONG**.

HE SENT MARINES TO INVADE **HAWAII**. AMERICA **LOVED** HIM!

HE TRADED NANCY TO **IRAN** AND MARRIED THE AYATOLLAH.

AMERICA **LOVED** HIM!

AFTER EIGHT YEARS IN OFFICE, THE CONSTITUTION WAS CHANGED TO MAKE HIM PRESIDENT--**FOREVER!**

THE AMENDMENT WAS RATIFIED BY EVERY STATE IN THE UNION.

EXCEPT HAWAII.

WHAT REAGAN WANTED, HE GOT...

AND **TODAY**--IN AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF--

--REAGAN **WANTS** SOMETHING...

GENTLEMEN, WE FACE A CRISIS TODAY.

MR. PRESIDENT, HOW MUCH DID THE PENTAGON SPEND ON THIS BOX OF BULLETS?

Uhhhh...

THAT IS CORRECT. 1.2 MILLION DOLLARS, WE FEEL CONVENTIONAL WEAPONRY IS NO LONGER VIABLE.

THE MANUFACTURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS COME TO A COMPLETE HALT. AND WHY?

Uhhhh...

INDEED, EVERY SCRAP OF PLUTONIUM HAS BEEN USED TO MAKE WARHEADS.

OF COURSE, YOU KNOW WHY THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE WAS CANCELLED.

Uhhhh...

TO BE SURE. MR. REAGAN FELT IT WAS POINTLESS AFTER THE DEATH OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE GEORGE LUCAS.

THE *CRISIS*, THEN...

MISS DEFENSE BUDGET 2049

HOW CAN WE CONTINUE THE *ARMS RACE?*

SLOWLY, UNSTEADILY, HANDS ALMOST *ONE-AND-ONE-HALF CENTURIES OLD* REACH INTO A SUIT POCKET--

--SHAKING LIKE DEAD TREE BRANCHES IN A DYING WIND.

THE PRESIDENT HAS AN *IDEA*...

Uhhhh...

THE NATION IS GALVANIZED BY THE SCOPE AND VISION OF THE PRESIDENT'S MASTER PLAN!

HOW CAN REAGAN BE SUCH A RAGING VOLCANO OF CONCEPTS AND INSPIRATION?

WHAT IN THE WORLD-WIDE ARENA OF MILITARY POWER CAN COMPETE WITH THIS?

WHEN HAS THERE EVER BEEN SUCH A POTENTIAL FOR A TECHNOLOGICAL RENAISSANCE?

WHO DO YOU THINK WILL HAVE THE SKILL AND DRIVE TO COMMAND THE FIRST ROBOT?

WHY DID YOU PUT MILK ON MY CORNFLAKES?

CRUNCH

OH, JACK, THINK ABOUT THE ROBOT! THE THUNDERWALKER! DON'T YOU WANT THE COMMAND?

WHY'D YOU PUT MILK ON THESE, POP? YOU KNOW I LIKE THEM DRY.

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

HOW CAN YOU EAT THEM DRY?

THEY'RE GOOD! YOU SHOULD TRY THEM!

IT SOUNDS TERRIBLE!

ALIEN

THEY'RE GOOD!

SNAP

CRUNCH

THERE'RE THREE THOUSAND APPLICANTS TO PILOT THAT ROBOT! WHAT IF YOU DON'T GET IT?

I'LL GET IT.

YOU THE BEST?

NO. WELL, MAYBE. BUT I'LL GET IT.

THERE'S MY GIRL.

PRETTY SOON NOW.

YOU KNOW, IF YOU DON'T GET IT, WE'LL NEED TO FIND A NEW HOUSE.

I'LL GET IT.

SUPPOSE YOU DON'T?

I'LL GET IT.

CAUTION

IT'S A LONGSHOT. IT'S NOT A REALISTIC GOAL. YOU HAVE TO COVER YOUR ASS.

YOU'VE GOT A LOT INVESTED IN YOUR CAREER. YOU DON'T PUT IT ALL IN ONE ANTE.

BIG ANTE. TOP OF THE LINE. IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT ARMOR COMMISSION IN THE WORLD.

I'VE GOT A LOT INVESTED IN YOU, TOO, YOU KNOW. YOU MIGHT THINK OF ME.

I DO.

MATTSSON WAS HERE

WILDFIRE

UPPER SLUM

BUT THERE MIGHT BE GUYS BETTER THAN YOU.

TRUE.

YOUR CHANCES ARE ONE IN THREE THOUSAND.

TRUE.

SO WHAT IF, GOD FORBID, YOU *DON'T* GET IT?

I'LL GET IT.

RICO

SIONA

THEORETICALLY--FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT--LET'S JUST SUPPOSE--IN YOUR WILDEST DREAMS--WHAT IF YOU *DON'T* GET IT?

WHERE WILL WE LIVE? WHAT WILL WE EAT? WHAT WILL WE DO?

I'LL GET IT!

AND HE DID, TOO.

BUT OTHERS WERE ALSO WATCHING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GIANT ROBOTS --

Россия (RUSSIA)

IN THE HALLS OF THE KREMLIN THE PRESSURE TO DEVELOP A RESPONSE TO THE THUNDERWALKER WAS MOST KEENLY FELT...

[THE PARTY IS RAPIDLY LOSING PATIENCE WITH YOUR ROBOT PROGRAM, COMRADE! WHAT ARE TODAY'S NEW DISASTERS, OF WHICH YOU SPEAK SO HIGHLY?]

[OH, THIS PIECE IS A TRIUMPH, COMRADE PREMIER! AT FIRST IT SEEMS TO BE A MERE ROBOT DOG...]

Собáка (DOG)

CLICK WHIRR

[BUT IS CLEVERLY CONSTRUCTED TO TRANSFORM INTO--A CASSETTE TAPE!]

Тесьмá (TAPE)

[INSPIRED, COMRADE! BRILLIANT! NOW SOVIET ARMY CAN MAKE FOUR-HUNDRED HOUR DANCE TAPES!]

[HAVE YOU NOTHING INTELLIGENT TO SHOW ME?]

[AH! WELL, THIS ROBOT APPEARS AT FIRST UNDISTINGUISHED--BUT HAS SUPERB POWERS OF DISGUISE...]

Рэбот (ROBOT)

GRIND CLICK BOING RATCHET!

[IT CAN INSTANTLY TRANSFORM INTO--]

[TRICERATOPS!]

[BY GOL'GOROGRAD! SUCH GENIUS!]

[IMAGINE ITS USES! AN AMERICAN SENTRY CHALLENGES AN INTRUDER--"HALT! WHO GOES THERE, FRIEND OR FOE?"--BUT HE SEES THIS, HE SAYS, "WHY, SILLY ME! IS ONLY TRICERATOPS!--]

Глупый Рэбот (STUPID ROBOT)

["PASS, FRIEND!"]

[GEE, YOU REALLY THINK THAT WOULD HAPPEN?]

[IDIOT! IDIOT! IDIOT! IF DESIGNS DON'T IMPROVE, WE'LL SOON BE SINGING *STAR SPANGLED BANNER!*]

[I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU CARE TO SEE VOLKSWAGEN THAT CHANGES INTO PORTABLE RADIO?]

@#☆!!◎! ВОПЯ!! НО!! #%@!!!

[SO *TELL* ME, COMRADE. AS A PARTY MEMBER, YOU LIVE IN NICE--]

[--*TENT*...]

[... *DON'T* YOU?]

D-DA, KOMRÁD...

[I WOULD HATE TO SEE YOU *LOSE* YOUR NICE TENT--AND MOVE YOUR FAMILY INTO--]

[*APARTMENT!*]

[*THEN GET ME SOMETHING THAT WORKS! I WANT RESULTS! RESULTS! RESULTS!*]

IF WE GET NOWHERE WITH ROBOTS, TRY *NEW APPROACH* ALTOGETHER!]

[AND TAKE THAT TRICERATOPS OUTSIDE AND LET IT WALK AROUND UNDER THE U.S. SPY SATELLITE FOR A WHILE!]

[*THAT* WILL GIVE THE AMERICANS SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!]

[*NO*, COMRADE PREMIER! N-NOT *THAT*! THE CROWDING--THE VERMIN--THE SMELL--P-PLEASE...]

AND **THAT** WAS HOW THE STRANGE STORY OF THE ROBOTS BEGAN.

THE COMBINED DEFENSE INDUSTRIES OF **NORTH AMERICA** WERE SOON FULLY MOBILIZED TO MANUFACTURE AMBULATORY WAR MACHINES AT A WARTIME **PRIORITY RATE.**

WHOLE PLANETOIDS OF **ORE**, BLAZING SUNS OF **ENERGY**, TENS OF MILLIONS OF **MAN-HOURS**, AND THE INCALCULABLE GENIUS OF THE GREATEST INTELLECTS OF THE **AGE** WERE BROUGHT TO CONCEIVE AND FORGE AND BLAZE THE **NEW SAVIORS.**

THE UNDERWATER OIL FIELDS OF THE **MIO-PACIFIC** HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED BY **NATO-RAL** SINCE THE MARIANA **TRENCH WARS.**

HERE PATROLS THE **WAR TITAN**, WHO STRIDES LIKE A MODERN-DAY **POSEIDON** THROUGH THE DIM GREEN LIGHT WITH THE INCON-CEIVABLE WEIGHT OF AN OCEAN PRESSING DOWN UPON HIM.

TEL AVIV-JAFFA WAS THE MOST POISONOUS, BLISTERING HOTBED OF **HARD RADIATION** ON EARTH, AND NO HUMAN HAD TROD HERE FOR 41 YEARS.

NOW, **IRON PROMETHEUS** WALKS THROUGH A HAZE OF RAW PLASMIC NEUTRONS THAT WARM HIS SKIN LIKE SUNSHINE.

IN A PERFECT VACUUM AND A PERFECT SILENCE THE SONS OF ADAM BUILT A NEW **ORION.**

KING COLOSSUS WEIGHS 72×10^3 METRIC **TONS** AND DRIFTS OVER THE CITIES OF MAN LIKE A **SOAP BUBBLE.**

THESE BEAR THE STANDARD!

THESE ARE THE FRONT LINE! THE BRAVE FIRST FEW!

THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE CAVALRY SWORD!

POINT MEN IN THE PUSH TO TOMORROW!

IRON PROMETHEUS! INDIA PAPA--INDIA PAPA, READ ME, COMPTON!

KING COLOSSUS--KING COLOSSUS, COMPTON COPY. COMPTON COPY!

THIS IS THE THUNDERWALKER--THUNDERWALKER, READ ME, COMPTON!

THIS IS WAR TITAN--WAR TITAN! COMPTON, READ ME!

J-BEAM STEADY AT TWO-TWO-NINER--TWO-TWO-NINER, THAT IS CORRECT!

AJRTS OFF LIKE A MOTHER! ALFA GREEN, BRAVO GREEN, CHARLIE GREEN!

TARGET ENGAGED, TARGET NEUTRALIZED!

I AM AT EIGHTY-FOUR KNOTS, EIGHTY-FOUR AND COUNTING!

THE PRESIDENT CALLS THEM THE LAST BEST HOPE FOR THE FUTURE!

THE GROUND CREW JUST CALLS THEM CHEAP SHODDY ROBOT TOYS!

NOTHING IN THE WORLD CAN APPROACH THEM!

I'M NOT SO SURE! IF I KNOW THE SOVIETS, THEY'RE DEVELOPING A COUNTER-MEASURE--A TOP-SECRET...SOMETHING!

BUT WHAT COULD IT BE? I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE...

TO BE CONTINUED...

Comics Buyer's Guide
Fan Awards for 1987

1. Favorite Editor .....

2. Favorite Writer .....

3. Favorite Penciller .....

4. Favorite Inker .....

5. Favorite Colorist .....

6. Favorite Letterer .....

7. Favorite Cover Artist .....

8. Favorite Comic-Book Story .....

9. Favorite Comic Book .....

10. Favorite Limited Comic-Book Series .....

11. Favorite Original Graphic Novel .....

12. Favorite Reprint Graphic Novel .....

13. Favorite Character .....

14. Favorite Publication about Comics .....

Phil Seuling Award for Favorite Direct-Sale-Only Title .....

Only material cover-dated 1987 is eligible for consideration. Votes for ineligible material will not be counted. Anyone may copy and circulate this ballot, and any fan may vote only once and vote for no more than one nominee in each category. Ballot-box stuffing will result in the destruction of all ballots involved. You need not vote in all categories. *Comics Buyer's Guide* is not eligible for Category 13.

A free copy of *Comics Buyer's Guide* #752, dated April 15, 1988 (which will carry the results of voting), will be sent to any U.S. voter who does not already have a current or expired subscription to *CBG*. Votes from other countries will be counted, but we regret that a sample copy cannot be sent unless the vote is accompanied by $1.50 in U.S. funds to cover costs of handling and shipping to another country.

Mail your ballot individually in a single envelope by February 29, 1988, to:

***Comics Buyer's Guide** Fan Awards*
700 East State Street
Iola, Wisconsin 54990

Name ..... **Male Female** (circle one) **Age** .....

Street or Box .....

City, State, and **ZIP** .....

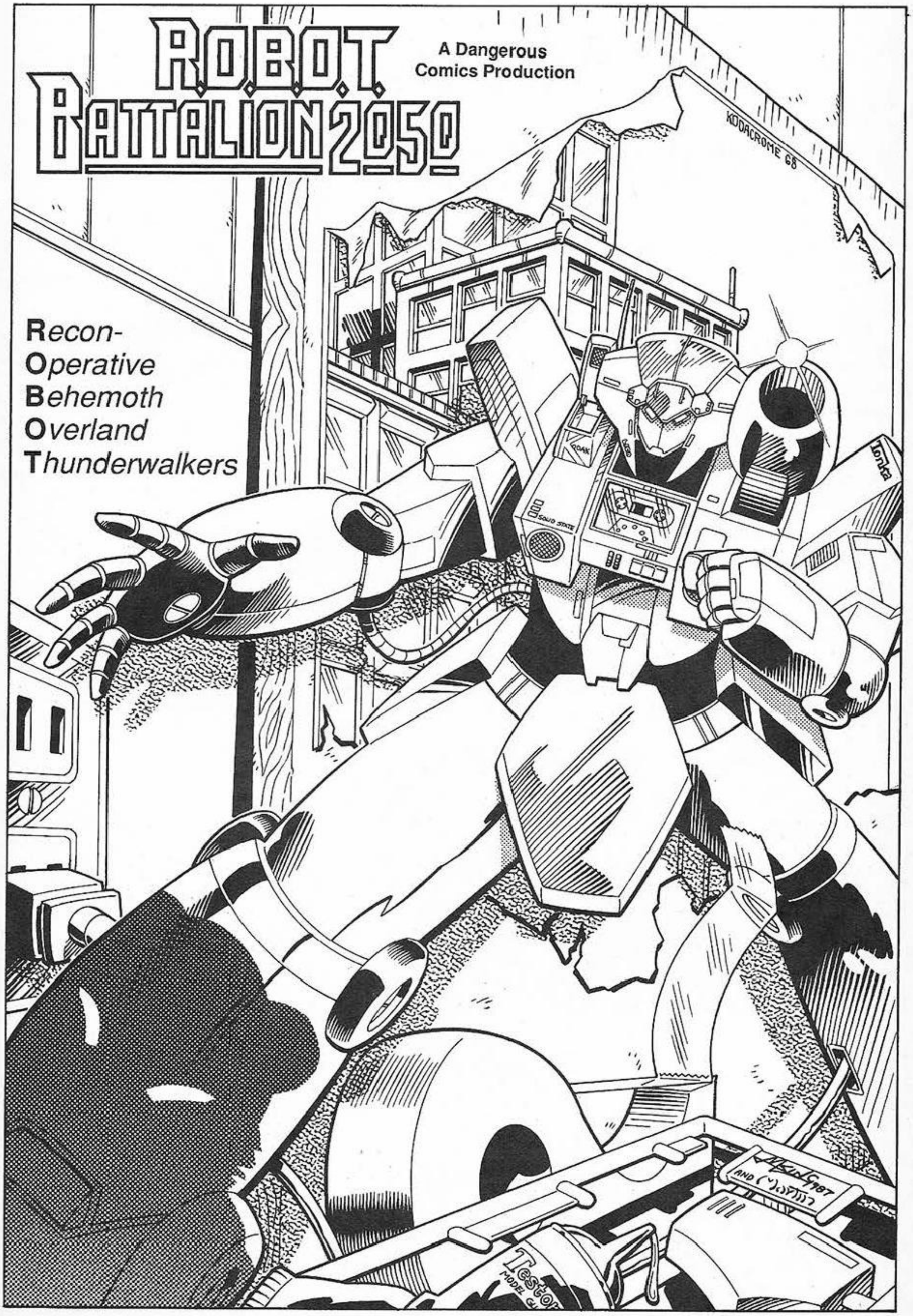
Please type or print your votes and information clearly.

You need not cut or tear out this page in order to vote! Copies are acceptable and will be counted.

R.O.B.O.T. BATTALION 2050

A Dangerous
Comics Production

R*econ-*
O*perative*
B*ehemoth*
O*verland*
T*hunderwalkers*



Had it with the real world?

DIRECTORY TO A

NONEXISTENT

UNIVERSE

Night Knight!
Grow-Arm-Hair-Lad!
Old-Man!

Macho Ma'am!
The Envelope!
Sir Realism!

The Kremlin Gremlin!
Invisible, Inc.!
Dober-Man The Pincher!

ARE YOU SURE HE'S GETTING OUR FACES?
WHOS: IDEA WAS IT TO LET STUPID-MAN TAKE THE PICTURE?
DOES ANYONE MIND IF I PUT THE DOG OUT?
CALLEN

Loose Linda!
Dust Devil!
White Lightning!

Osborne The Unicorn!
Hot Dog!
Miss Fit!

. . . and that's not all . . .

A One-Shot Special from

Independent Comics Group
A Division of Eclipse Comics

Directory to a Nonexistent Universe TM and ©1987 Kerry Callen

THE POOREST REGION OF FAMINE-STRICKEN ECUADOR...

IT IS ONLY A FEW MONTHS LATER WHEN AN INSIGNIFICANT EVENT IN A FORGOTTEN CORNER OF THE WORLD BEGINS SNOWBALLING TOWARD DISASTER...

Aiieeee! ¡MADRE DE DIOS! [SÁNCHEZ'S TICK-BITTEN, DISEASE-RIDDEN GOAT IS IN MY CROPS AGAIN!]

CHAPTER TWO...

TOXBOX

BEPPE SABATINI -- WRITER
MARTIN KING -- PENCILLER
JEFF ALBRECHT -- INKER
JOHN CLARK -- LETTERER

[SÁNCHEZ! YOUR UGLY, VOMITING GOAT IS IN MY YARD AGAIN, OR ELSE IT'S YOUR WIFE, I CAN'T TELL!]

[BETTER A GOAT SHOULD EAT YOUR CROPS THAN A HUMAN BE POISONED BY THEM!]

[BETTER A HUMAN SHOULD BE POISONED THAN TO HAVE YOU FOR A NEIGHBOR!]

[COME STAND IN MY SHED AND SCARE THE RATS AWAY!]

[FEED YOUR RATS WITH YOUR GOAT'S MILK AND WATCH THEM DROP DEAD!]

¡MADRE DE DIOS! [I'M THROUGH MAKING WAR WITH THAT PIG-FACED PARASITE!]

[SHE'S ONLY 48 KILOMETERS TO CAPITAL!]

[SOMEBODY AT AMERICAN EMBASSY MUST KNOW HOW TO WRITE!]

Dear President Reagan:
I would like to call a very important matter to your attention.

MI DISTINGUIDO SEÑOR PRESIDENTE: QUISIERA LLAMAR SU ATENCIÓN...

[WASHINGTON HASN'T WRITTEN US IN YEARS! WHY SHOULD THEY CARE ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBOR?]

¡MI AMIGO ES UNA COMUNISTA!

Ohhhhh...

INDEED, WITHIN TEN DAYS ...

[AN INVASION!]

[AIRCRAFT CARRIERS!]

[SEA GODS!]

[THE END OF THE WORLD!]

[NO! AMERICAN MILITARY AID!]

[ALL I DID WAS COMPLAIN ABOUT A GOAT!]

EASE UP, CAPTAIN! A-G UP...

ANTI-GRAV ON FULL--I'M STANDING UP--

SLOW OR YOU'LL SWAMP US...

PORT AUTHORITY! PORT AUTHORITY! GREETINGS FROM AMERICA!

WE ARE TO CONTACT LOCAL MILITARY. CAN YOU ASSIST?

THIS IS PORT AUTHORITY. WELCOME TO ECUADOR, GENTLEMEN! WE HAVE BAD NEWS--THERE *IS* NO MORE LOCAL MILITARY!

GRRRRR

WHAT IS *THAT?*

"THAT'S THE REASON THERE'S NO MORE MILITARY!"

AEEEEE!!

[IT IS THEM!!!]

"THE SOVIETS HAVE ***SEEN YOU COMING*** --AND SENT THEIR *OWN* GIANT WARRIORS--"

PINK PESTILENCE BEAR!

BLUE FAMINE BEAR!

MART

COMICS

RAINBOW DEATH BEAR!

ORANGE COMBAT BEAR!

THEY'RE THE RUSSIANS' ANSWER TO THE ROBOTS-- THE CHAIRMAN BEARS!

[CLEAR THE HARBOR! CLEAR THE HARBOR! HE'S SWALLOWED FOUR SHIPS!...A LIVING TYPHOON OF RAGE AND DESTRUCTIVENESS!]

WHERE IS THE MILITIA? WHERE'S OUR RENDEZVOUS?

THE BEARS *ATE* THEM!

¡POBRECITO! [MISERABLE FATE! DEATH IN THE BELLY OF A BEAR!]

[HE EATS OUR COUNTRYMEN LIKE FAT GRUBS!]

CAN WE NEGOTIATE? WHO IS THE FIELD COMMANDER? THE INSURGENT LEADERS?

THE BEARS ATE *THEM*, TOO! YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, CAPTAIN!

TITAN COLOSSUS, INDIA PAPA, THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN! WE HAVE *UN-COUNTED* CIVILIAN DEAD!

[HE SMASHES STEEL BUILDINGS AND GRAZES ON MOUNTAINS!]

[IF THE AMERICANS DON'T *SAVE* US, THE COUNTRY WILL BE STRIPPED AND SHEARED!]

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE BEST ARMOR CREW IN THE WORLD.

SHOW ME!

LET'S TAKE DOWN SOME *BEARS!*

HI, WAR TITAN! I AM PINK PESTILENCE BEAR! WILL YOU BE MY *FRIEND?*

IF YOU WON'T BE MY FRIEND, I WILL *KILL* YOU!

BACK OFF, BEAR!

OH, *DEAR!* YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW TO *BEHAVE!* I *WILL* HAVE TO KILL YOU!

RETREAT OR TAKE FIRE, BEAR!

SKREEEEEE

CREEEAK

KRIK KRIK KRIK

DAMMIT! MY JOINTS ARE ALL LOCKED!

I'VE BEEN IN THE *AIR* TOO LONG! I'M RUSTED *SOLID!*

YOU ARE A FUN PLAYMATE, WAR TITAN! LOOSEN UP! DON'T BE SO STIFF!

SPLASHHH!

HAVE FUN BEING DEAD! HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

HOW CAN WE HOLD OFF THESE HAIRY DESTROYERS WITH CHEAP, SHODDY, RUSTING, INDUSTRIAL *TOYS?*

SAY, DID YOU EAT YET? WHERE'S THE FRY GRILL? WHERE'S THE ICE CREAM STAND? ANY OF THOSE CORN MUFFINS LEFT? I'M HUNGRY! I'M FAMISHED!

I'M FAMINE BEAR!

EAT *THIS*, BEAR!

HHH ZRU-MM MMM

YEOWCH! HEY! WOW! SAY, I'VE BEEN FRIED, *eh?*

CAN YOU USE THAT TO MAKE POPCORN? COME ON, LET'S KNOCK OFF AND EAT SOME PEASANTS!

BZZT FAK PHT FZZZ

WHOOPS! SAY, YOUR PILOT LIGHT'S OUT!

YOU DO HAVE A PILOT IN THERE, DON'T YOU? AMERICAN FOOD IS JUST SO *NOTHING*, DON'T YOU THINK? STILL...

...I THINK I'LL EAT YOU ANYWAY!

LIE STILL, NOW! THIS WON'T HURT A BIT!

QUIT *WIGGLING!* BE GOOD SO I CAN *KILL* YOU!

CHOMP

MY LAST CHANCE-- GO INTO *TRANSFORMING* MODE...

KA-CHUNG!

WELL, THAT DIDN'T SEEM TO HELP MUCH!

KA-SPRONG

GRRRRRRRR! GRGROWWWWW! RRRAARRRRR!

W-W-WAIT! L-L-LET'S T-T-TAKE A L-L-L-LUNCH-----

OH, THOSE UGLY AMERICANS! I THINK I'LL GO BRUNCH ON SOME MIGRANTS!

BUT THESE FAMINE-STRICKEN PEOPLE ARE SO STRINGY! I SHOULD KNOW! I CAUSE THE FAMINE! HAR-HAR-DE-HAR! OH, I LOVE MYSELF!

I AM HUNGRY, THOUGH!

IRON PROMETHEUS, PLEASE REPORT.

BZZ CLICK

SPLOOSH

[MONSTER BEARS ARE CRAZY AS RASPUTIN, BUT ROBOTS SOON WILL BE DEFEATED!]

[I CANCEL ALL PLANS FOR SUMMIT MEETING! TOMORROW, WE WILL BE ONLY WORLD POWER LEFT!]

IRON PROMETHEUS, PLEASE COME IN. BZZ CLICK

INDIA PAPA! DO YOU READ?

BZZ CLICK

IRON PROMETHEUS, PLEASE REPORT.

BEAR! I WANT A CEASE-FIRE!

COMBAT! COMBAT! *NEGOTIATE* ONLY WHEN ALL AVENUES OF *VIOLENCE* HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED!

WE ARE A PEACE-KEEPING FORCE, *COMBAT BEAR!* ENGAGEMENT IS *UNNECESSARY!*

COMBAT! COMBAT! PEACE IS FOR THE *WEAK!* VICTORY IS FOR THE *STRONG!* AND THE SPOILS SHOULD GO IN THE *REFRIGERATOR!*

CEASE HOSTILITIES OR I MUST RESPOND!

REVENGE IS A DISH BEST SERVED COLD! -- *RETRIBUTION* SHOULD BE REHEATED IN THE MICROWAVE!

DISENGAGE! AUTOMATED MODE!

WHIRR KA-PAF KA-PAF WHI-CHAK CHAK CHAK

OUCH! OUCH! SAY, THIS REALLY HURTS!

I SURRENDER! *OUCH! I SURRENDER!*

CRUNCH

WHAM WHAM POUND

OW! THIS ISN'T AS MUCH FUN AS I THOUGHT! *OUCH!*

WHIKKA-KLIK-KLIK-KLUNK!!

WORTHLESS RUSTY TIN POT! DISENGAGE! DISENGAGE!

@#!!#!!@%#!! MISERABLE PIECE OF ARMOR!

Hmm! Y'KNOW, MAYBE I WAS TOO HASTY WITH THIS SURRENDER THING!

COMBAT! COMBAT! THE VICTOR FALLEN, THE DOWNTRODDEN ARISES!

TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T GET IT ALL TOGETHER! HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

EEK

HISSSSSSS!!!

THE CHARNEL HOUSE FIELD SMELLS SWEET TO A VICTOR! DEW FALLS GENTLY ON THE FACES OF THE DEAD!

MAYBE I SHOULD TRY WRITING POETRY SOMETIME! DO YOU THINK?

SNAP

THIS IS KING COLOSSUS, CAPTAIN! DO YOU READ?!

WHEEEAK

WHANK

THE COLOSSUS IS DISABLED! TOTAL LOSS! TOTAL LOSS!

PLEASE RESPOND, CAPTAIN! PLEASE RESPOND!

CAPTAIN-- IS SOMETHING KEEPING YOU BUSY?

KA-THOOM!!

GRROWWWWR

WHY JACK LEAVE SO SOON?

TIRED OF PLAYING? WHERE YOU GO?

HAH! SO QUIET!

IS NAUGHTY BOY HIDE HERE SOMEWHERE?

COME OUT NOW, JACK, BEFORE I AM OH-SO-ANGRY.

WE MAKE EXAMPLE OF BAD, BAD AMERICANS.

NOT YET, BEAR!

WHANG

ARRRRGHH!!

GRRRR-
ARRRRRR!!!
YOU HURT ME!
KRUNG
I TEAR YOU THROAT OUT, RAT SCOW!
KAHHOOM
KHOOM
KHOOM
HA! HA! HA! HA!
OOOOFFFF!!
KFWAF
KFWAF
KFWAF
KFWAF
MY MISSILES AREN'T ENOUGH!
I CAN'T GET UP! I'M TOO HEAVY! MY A-G IS BURNING OUT!
LIE STILL FOR WHILE-- I TUCK YOU IN!
DA-BLAM
CREEEEEAK
WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING-- I'M THE LAST MAN FIGHTING--THE LAST CHANCE...

HERE COME *REST* OF MY FRIENDS!

JUST *WATCH* US! YOU LEARN WHAT FUN *REALLY* MEANS!

THAT'S *IT!* THAT'S HOW THEY *THINK!* IT'S *GOT* TO BE!

BEARS! LISTEN TO ME! YOU--YOU SHOULD ALL BE *ASHAMED* OF YOURSELVES! YOU'RE ALL-- *Uh*--

--BAD ROLE MODELS!

NO!

I--WE *COULDN'T* BE!

THAT-- WOULD BE THE *WORST*-- *UNFORGIVE-ABLE!*

IT'S *TRUE!* YOU PROMOTE *AGGRESSIVENESS* IN CHILDREN!

BUT... BUT... WE SHOULDN'T EXPOSE CHILDREN TO THAT!

Pssst! KID! HELP ME OUT!

Uh-- YES! I WILL MIMIC YOU BEARS AND ENGAGE IN CONFRONTATIONAL BEHAVIOR!

PERHAPS WE SHOULD JUST *LEAVE...*

SAY WHAT I SAY, KID...

NO! STAY! *Er*--I WANT TO LEARN *ANTI-SOCIAL TENDENCIES!*

NO-- I'M SORRY CHILD-- WE'RE GOING HOME NOW...

AFTER WE'RE GONE, YOU'LL BE BETTER ABLE TO *GET ALONG!*

STAY! STAY! TEACH ME *DISUNITY* AND NON-CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDES!

FAREWELL, LITTLE CHILD! YOU WILL NEVER SEE US AGAIN!

I CANT BELIEVE IT! THEY'VE ALL LEFT! ALL BUT RAIN-BOW DEATH BEAR -- WHO *DIED* OF A BROKEN HEART!

NOT TO MENTION ALL THOSE *MISSILES* I SHOT HIM WITH!

¡ARRIBA OKIBI! ¡ARRIBA OKIBI!

[SING HIS PRAISES FROM THE ROOFTOPS-- WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM!]

¡QUÉ BUENO! ¡QUÉ BUENO! ¡QUÉ BUENO!

[OUR COUNTRY WILL LOVE HIM *FOREVER!*]

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[AW, MOM! NOT LEFTOVER BEAR *AGAIN!*]

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AND IN THE KREMLIN...

[BAH! ALL BEARS ARE *DROWNED!* IT'S BACK TO THE *BARGAINING* TABLE!

[*SALT* PART 5: THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES!]

INTERGLOBE INQUIRING STAR

DIET SECRETS OF ELVIS!

[WHAT ARE NEW PEACE TALKS CALLED?]

NATURALLY, YOU LOST YOUR VEHICLE!

EXCUSE *ME!* AT LEAST I *WON!*

YOU THINK THEY'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER?

THE END

THEY *MIGHT!* AS LONG AS THERE ARE *GIANT TALKING BEARS*, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A NEED FOR...

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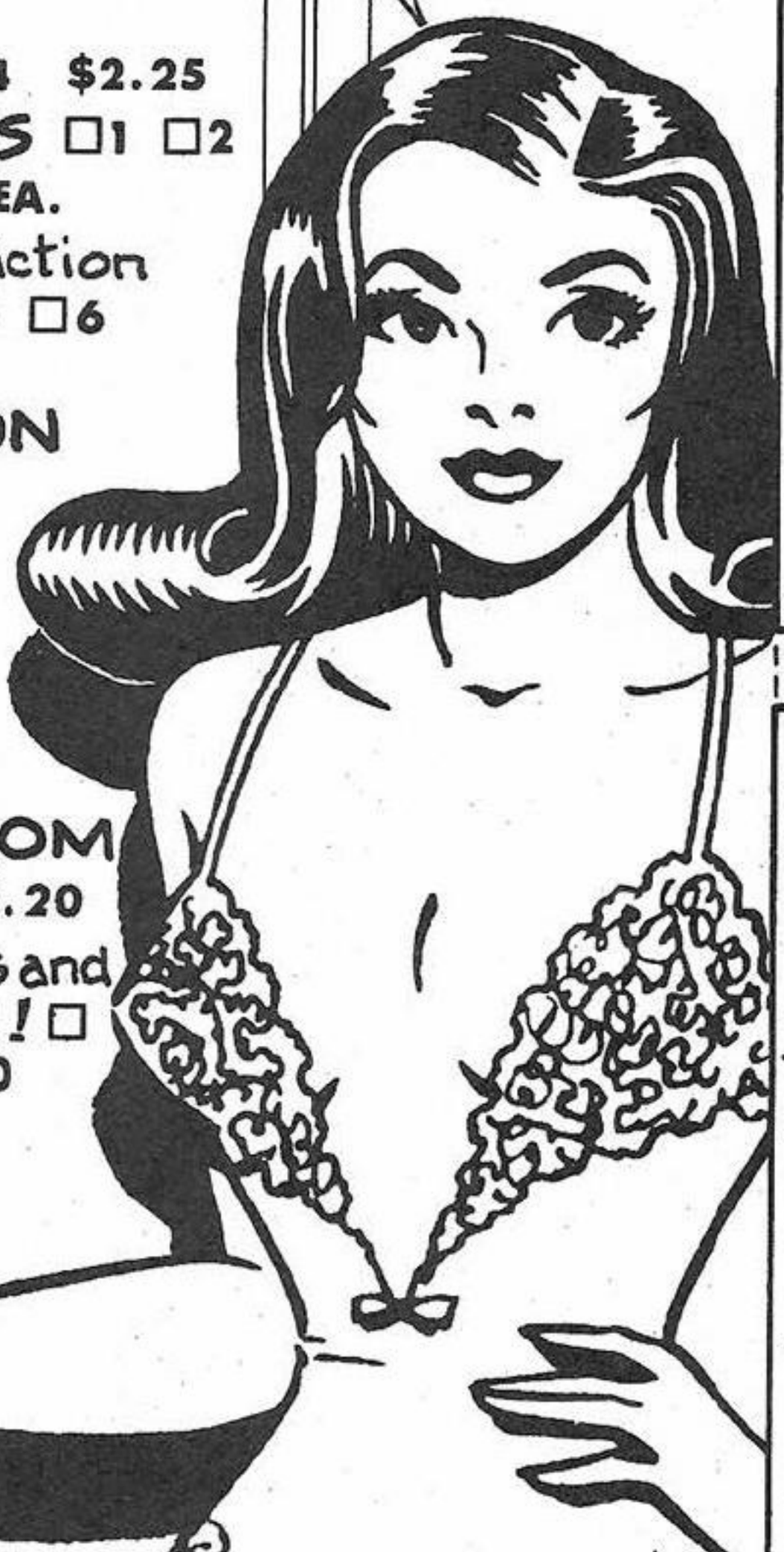

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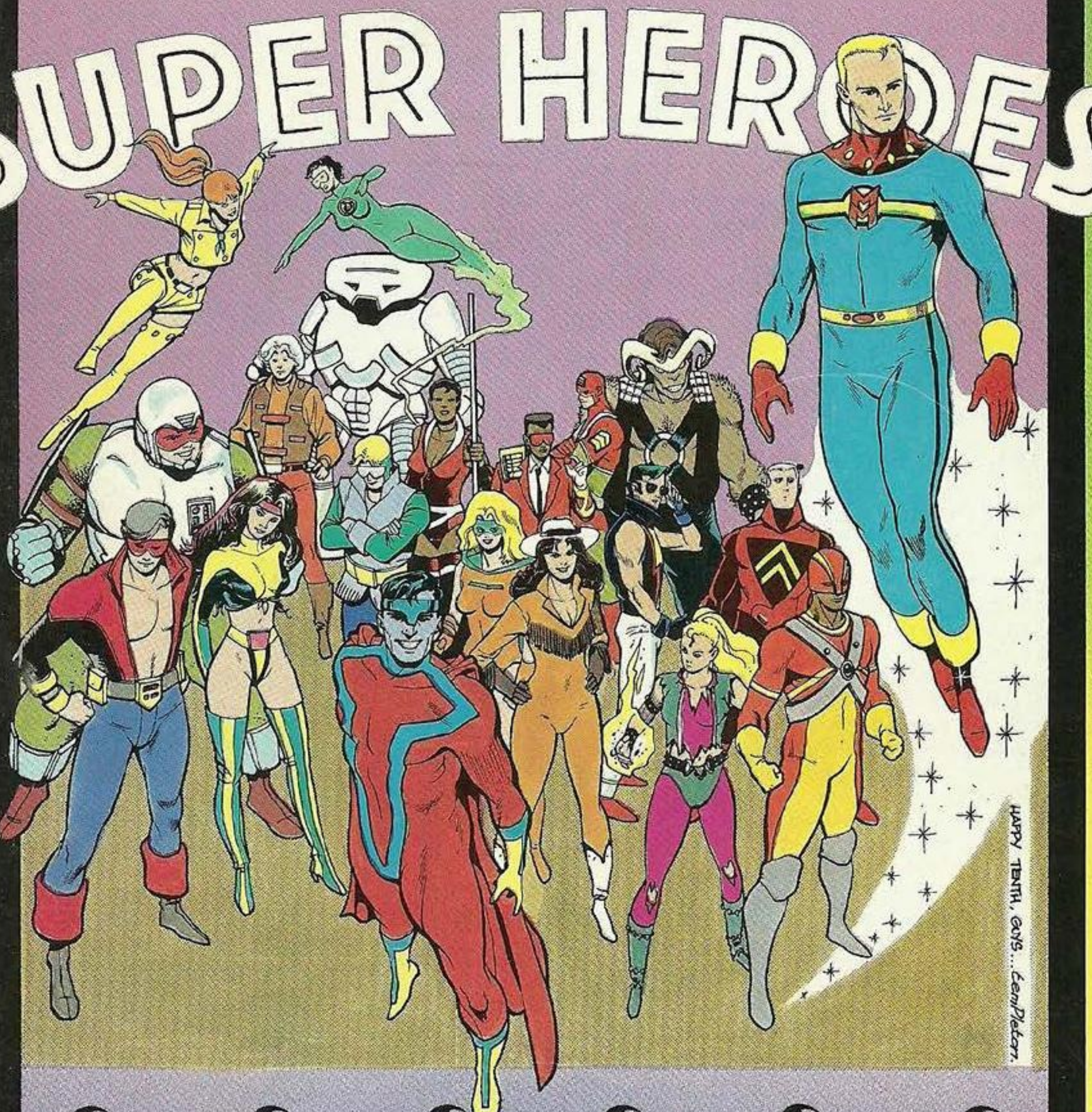

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